



Hennepin County Commissioner Linda Higgins

Issue Ten

In Touch With District 2

Meeting held to discuss Webber Park Library



On Monday evening, September 30, Commissioner Higgins; Library Board members Therese VanBlarcom, Kathleen Lamb and Rebekah Anderson; and county staffers met with residents from the Webber Camden neighborhood of North Minneapolis to discuss the future of the Webber Park library. Because of structural damage, the library has been closed since mid-July.

County property services staff told the group that the cost to rebuild the library to the substandard status before the closure would be approximately \$325,000. Commissioner Higgins stated that she believes the building should not be repaired and that the focus should

move to temporary library space and planning for a new library that would meet the needs of the neighborhood.

The group had a lively discussion about what was needed and wanted in a temporary space. All hoped that a space could be identified and leased quickly. County staff said they have identified a potential site but need to do more investigation to determine whether the site would be available, appropriate and affordable for a temporary space.

For future updates, visit hclib.org/webberpark, or to receive future updates, email [Tina Sanz](mailto:Tina.Sanz) or call 612-348-7882 to indicate how you prefer to receive information.

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[Map It!](#)

Did You Know?

You can subscribe to many online services on the county website: Click [here](#) and see what information is interesting or useful to you.

Enter your email or cell phone number and then select which items interest you, such as tax-forfeited real estate auctions, public health updates, even property tax due date reminders.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5

Election Day is *Tuesday, Nov. 5, 7 am to 8 pm.* in many District 2 cities. Mayors, city councils, park boards, and other local offices are on the ballot.

If you won't be able to vote on November 5, you can vote by using an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are now available; check with your local elections office.



NEW THIS YEAR: You can register to vote online. Go to mnvotes.org to register, find where you vote, see a sample ballot for your precinct, and more!

Dependency Reduction Project will provide a career path approach



The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved a pilot program on September 24 that will allow 75 participants in Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) employment and training program to be part of a project to help them earn credentials toward long-term work in the construction or health care fields.

The goal is to improve long-term economic outcomes for MFIP clients, specifically female heads of household with a high school diploma or GED in North Minneapolis, where 67 percent of households have

some dependency on Hennepin County services. Summit Academy and Emerge Community Development will coordinate the training. Job retention will be measured, as will initial wages and wages at three and six months after job placement. The purpose of the pilot is to determine if a training and certification program focused on a career track will move clients to a livable income more effectively than the existing employment services model focused on “work first.”

Hennepin County will contract with Hope United Community Development Corporation, on behalf of the Northside Community Response Team (NCRT). The pilot project was developed by the Northside Community Response Team with technical assistance from Hennepin County staff.

New pedestrian/bicycle bridge planned for Luce Line Trail at Xenium in Plymouth

The County Board approved an agreement on September 24 with Three Rivers Park District to build a new bridge that will allow pedestrians and bicyclists using the Luce Line Trail to safely cross over Xenium Lane (CSAH 61). Three Rivers Park District will own the bridge and be responsible for any subsequent maintenance, repair or replacement.

Currently, the Luce Line Regional Trail has an at-grade crossing at the intersection of 13th Ave N. and Xenium Lane N. Xenium is a very heavily travelled commuter street at peak times of the day.

Construction work is beginning and bridge completion is anticipated at the end of June 2014. Until the bridge is completed, signs will be placed at both ends of the detour and the closure will be posted on the Three Rivers [website](#).



Property Taxes Reminder

Second half property taxes are due on October 15, 2013. For more information visit hennepin.us/PropertyTaxPayments.

Did you know that you can receive a reminder about when your property tax payments are due? You can subscribe to this and many other online services by clicking [here](#). Enter your email or cell phone number and then select which items interest you.

GED Program for Teen Parents

The Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association (MVNA) will provide intensive GED services for 75 teen parents in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) who are within range of passing the GED test before December 2013. The program has a three-pronged approach that combines one-to-one GED instruction and tutoring, childcare, and a team of volunteer tutors to assist.

Rehab Work Started for North Hub

The remodeling work has begun on the building that will house the North Hub starting in 2014. The Ackerberg Group will remodel the building to meet the needs of the clients and staff of Human Services and Public Health Department. The county plans to close Century Plaza, where clients currently go to receive services, in 2014 and move services to hubs throughout the county.

Grants for businesses, nonprofits to improve recycling



Hennepin County is offering grants of up to \$50,000 to help businesses, non-profit organizations and institutions start or improve

programs to divert recyclables and organics (food and non-recyclable paper) from the trash.

These grants can help with the purchase of recycling containers,

equipment, hauling services and minor improvements to loading docks and waste enclosures.

The commercial sector generates more than half of the total waste in Hennepin County, and nearly two-thirds of the waste created at businesses and non-profits is recyclable. Having a strong recycling program conserves natural resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, can help your bottom line, and demonstrates your organization's commitment to sustainability and the community.

For more information, email Andre Xiong or call 612-543-1316.

Work for Hennepin County?

Our website shows 36 positions currently available at Hennepin County. Positions include appraiser, chief innovation officer, data analyst, family nurse practitioner, librarian, medical assistant, IT positions, vocational counselor and more! If you're looking for a job or know someone who is looking, please check out this resource. Click [here](#) to see the list.

The Library also has help at www.hclib.org/pub/search/SubjectGuides.cfm?Topic=Jobs/Careers

Hennepin County is a great place to work!

Job assistance is as close as your computer

Job seeking assistance is available as close as your computer from the Hennepin County Library.

Many tools are available at hclib.org/pub/search/subjectguides.cfm?topic=jobs/careers.

For online resume and interview coaching and career advice from job help professionals, visit hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=JobNow&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics_Display=.

A tool to create and save resumes and cover letters (including tools to help you prepare for a job search) is available at http://www.hclib.org/pub/search/RefDetails.cfm?DBAbbrev=OptimalResume&Topic=databases&Display=&SubTopics_Display= (note: Subscription purchased with funding from Hennepin).



Hennepin County is partnering with local retailers to offer free Choose to Reuse coupon books valid from October 1 through November 30, 2013. Use your Choose to Reuse coupons to buy used books, music, clothing and accessories, rent party equipment or costumes, get new-to-you sporting equipment, and find antique or used furniture for your home. Shopping reuse gets you great deals on quality products, plus it supports local businesses, protects the environment and is a key way to reduce more than one million tons of waste that is generated in Hennepin County each year. More info at hennepin.us/choosetoreuse.

North Point to partner with Platform to Employment to assist veterans and seniors with unemployment

North Point Health and Wellness Center is partnering with Platform to Employment (P2E), a national program to assist seniors and veterans who have experienced long-term unemployment. P2E is a five-week program that provides skill building and career readiness as well as coaching. North Point will provide three workshops aimed at building confidence and learning coping strategies to deal with stress. Each participant will also receive a mental health evaluation, with additional sessions if needed, to determine their emotional readiness, improve self-confidence and develop an individualized support plan.

P2E was developed using private donations from foundations, companies and nonprofit organizations as a response to long term unemployment that resulted from the recession in 2008. They found that almost 40% of those unemployed had been out of work over 27 weeks and that long term unemployment was a barrier to being offered jobs.

Fill Up Your Calendar With These Upcoming Events in District 2

St. Anthony: *Saturday, Oct. 12, 1 to 4 pm.* St. Anthony Fire Department Open House. Tour the fire house and try on fire gear. Hot dogs, s'mores and lemonade. St. Anthony Fire Station, 3505 Silver Lake Rd.

Northeast: *Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 am to 1 pm.* Taste of Northeast at NE Farmers Market (7th and University). Food from Northeast restaurants, music, cooking demo. www.northeastmarket.org

Wednesday, Oct. 9, 5 to 9 pm. NeighborhoodFest at the Nicollet Island Pavillion. Food, networking and exhibits featuring businesses, restaurants, services, neighborhood groups, local talent. 40 Power St., Mpls.

Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 am to 2 pm. Fire Museum (664 22nd Av NE) family-friendly event! Participate in a wood workshop (sponsored by Home Depot), assemble a kid-friendly fire station or fire truck. Participation in events will get you free admission to the fire museum that day with a free ride on an antique fire engine! 612-673-3184.

Saturday, Oct. 19, 1 to 4 p.m., third annual Nordeast Big River Brew Fest, outside the historic Grain Belt Bottling House, 79 13th Ave. NE. Tickets \$25/ in advance; \$30 at the door. Ticket includes an event mug. 612-781-6011 or visit esns.org/events for tickets and more info. Proceeds benefit East Side Neighborhood Services.

North: *Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 am to noon.* Minneapolis Police, Special Olympics Minnesota and the Autism Society of MN (AuSM) have created a free awareness event at the Minneapolis Police Operations Center, 4119 Dupont N, where families touched by autism can interact with Minneapolis police officers while playing sports facilitated by Special Olympics staff. All ages are welcome. There will also be resource tables. Lunch is included in this free event, but registration is required. To learn more and register, visit www.ausm.org.

Friday, Oct. 17, 3 to 7 pm; Saturday, Oct. 18, noon to 5 pm; Sunday, Oct. 19, 10 am to 4 pm. Last two hours is \$5 bag sale. Friends of Sumner Library book sale, 611 Van White Blvd. The book sale will raise funds for the historic Sumner Library.

Saturday, October 27, 1 to 3 pm. Opening of the remodeled Theodore Wirth Park Pavilion. Speeches at 1:15.

North Loop: *Saturday, Oct. 13, 2 to 6 pm.* Explore North Loop. Explore some of the coolest condos and offices in the neighborhood. Tickets \$20 advance/\$25 day of event at www.northloop.org. All proceeds go to street greening.

Bryn Mawr: *Thursday, Oct. 10, 6 to 8 pm.* Bryn Mawr Sip and Stroll. Pick up a punch card at any business in downtown Bryn Mawr. [Info](#).

Thursday, Oct. 24, 6 to 8 pm. Bryn Mawr Harvest Dinner and Mexican Cuisine Competition.

Golden Valley: *Saturday, Oct 12, 8 am to 1 pm.* Annual Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day at [Brookview Park](#) (south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka, enter from Winnetka). Featuring areas for dumping junk, shredding documents, and donation stations for Bridging and PRISM. Must be a Golden Valley resident; fees apply (cash and checks only). More info [here](#).

Plymouth: *Saturday, Oct. 26 10 am to 4 pm.* Second Annual Pet Expo. Pet care, pet rescues, merchandise exhibitors, Skyhoundz disc dog tournament, Plymouth K9 demonstrations, rabbit agility, and inflatables for the kids. Admissions is \$3 per person (12 and under are free). Proceeds from entry fee will go to the Plymouth Dog Park (Cty Rd 47, between Lawndale Ln and Dunkirk Ln). For safety reasons, no personal pets allowed. Info [here](#).

Thursday, October 31, 5:30 to 8 pm. Halloween at the Creek. Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Ave. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. To register in advance, call 763-509-5200 or visit plymouthmn.gov.

Multiple Communities

Fire Prevention Week is October 6 to 12. Visit sparky.org for many fun activities for children and parents on this site. Free Sparky mobile app and free fire safety e-books at Sparkyschoolhouse.org, a site with internet materials for students in pre-K through 5.



Monday, Oct. 7, 6 to 7:30 pm. Minneapolis Riverfront Summit at the Mill City Museum, 704 S. Second St. Contact the Minneapolis Riverfront Partnership for details: info@minneapolisriverfrontpartnership.org 612-465-8780 x 212.

If you have events you would like to promote in our newsletter, drop an email to tina.sanz@hennepin.us.